ATLAS
MY OWN ROMANCE
My own ROMANCE
ON SALE MONTHLY
JULY
10¢
NO. 32
"HERE IS MY HEART!"
AUTHORIZED A.C.M.P.
CONFORMS to the COMICS CODE

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ONCE IN A LIFETIME

PHILIP LOVES ME, I KNOW... BUT DO I WANT THAT KIND OF LOVE, OR...?
LIKE EVERY GIRL IN THE WORLD, I WANTED THE KIND OF LOVE THAT COMES ONLY... ONCE IN A LIFETIME!
ILLUSTRATED BY JAY SCOTT PIKE
C 564

YES, I HAD DOUBTS... MANY OF THEM... EVEN WHEN I WAS IN PHILIP'S ARMS... PHILIP, WHO LOVED ME... WHO CARED AND PLANNED CAREFULLY...
AND PRETTY SOON, RITA, I'LL GET THAT RAISE! THEN WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO PUT DOWN ON THAT LITTLE COTTAGE ON CHERRY LANE! AFTER THAT, WE CAN GET MARRIED!
PHIL... HOLD ME... KISS ME!

HIS KISS WAS AS GENTLE AND TENDER AS HE WAS... QUIET... CALM... BUT NOT ENOUGH TO QUIET THE STORM IN MY HEART! I WAS GLAD HE DIDN'T SEE THE DOUBT IN MY FACE...

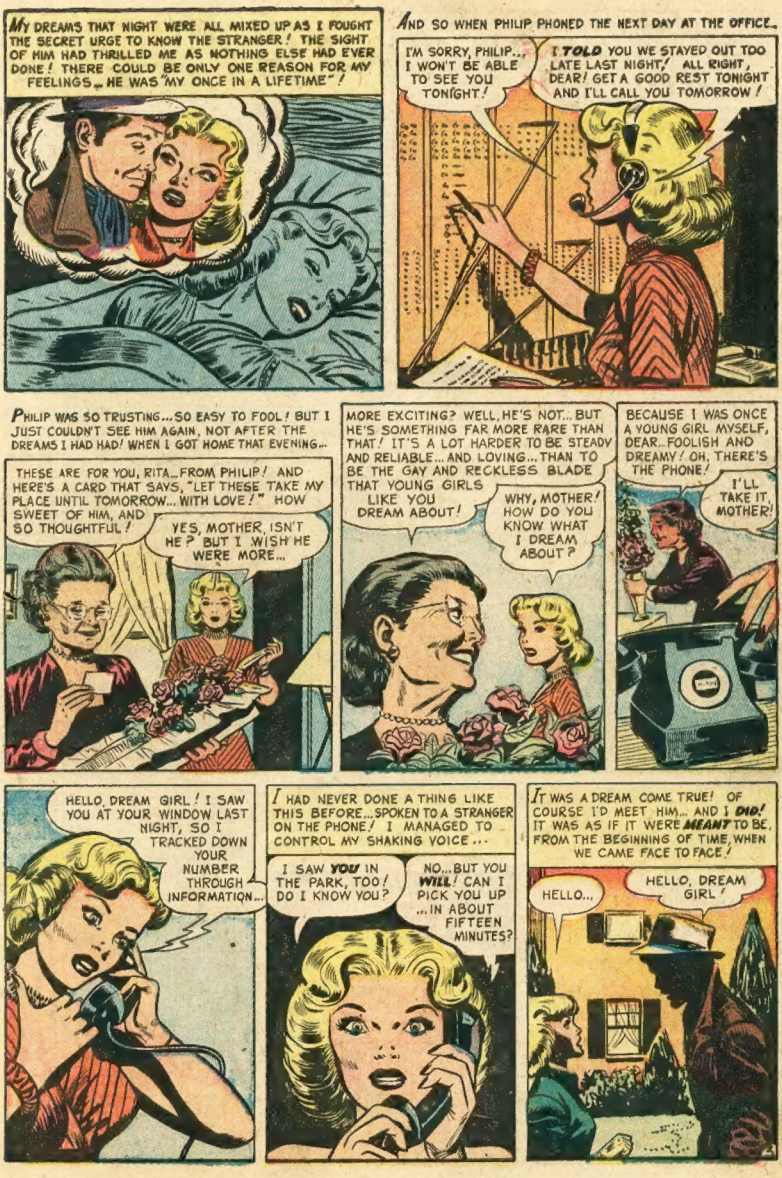
PHIL, WE'RE NOT GOING, ARE WE?
WE BOTH HAVE TO GO TO WORK TOMORROW, DARLING, AND IT'S LATE! I DON'T WANT YOU GETTING SICK, AND I CAN'T RISK THAT PROMOTION! OUR WHOLE FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT, RITA!

BUT THAT WAS PHILIP ALL OVER... THE CALM, UNDEMONSTRATIVE TYPE... ALWAYS SERIOUS... NEVER GAY AND LIGHT-HEARTED! HE WAS STEADY AND RELIABLE... THE KIND EVERY GIRL ADMIRES, BUT...

PHILIP'S NICE, BUT HE'S NOT EXCITING! HE ISN'T THE KIND THAT COMES ONLY ONCE IN A LIFETIME! I ADMIRE HIM, BUT... OH, HOW CAN I TELL HIM HE'S NOT FOR ME?

THEN... LOOKING OUT OF THE WINDOW I SAW HIM AGAIN... THE SAME DARK STRANGER WHO HAD PASSED BY IN THE PARK! THERE WAS AN AIR OF EXCITEMENT AND ROMANCE ABOUT HIM... OF MYSTERY... OF ALL THE THINGS PHILIP WAS NOT!

SUDDENLY, I COULDN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER! MY HEART WAS THUDDING LIKE A TRIPHAMMER... MY BREATH WAS CAUGHT IN MY THROAT! I DREW AWAY AND SHUT MY EYES, TRYING TO ERASE THE DANGEROUS THOUGHTS THAT SURGED THROUGH ME!


MY DREAMS THAT NIGHT WERE ALL MIXED UP AS I FOUGHT THE SECRET URGE TO KNOW THE STRANGER! THE SIGHT OF HIM HAD THRILLED ME AS NOTHING ELSE HAD EVER DONE! THERE COULD BE ONLY ONE REASON FOR MY FEELINGS... HE WAS "MY ONCE IN A LIFETIME"!
AND SO WHEN PHILIP PHONED THE NEXT DAY AT THE OFFICE...
I'M SORRY, PHILIP... I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU TONIGHT!
I TOLD YOU WE STAYED OUT TOO LATE LAST NIGHT, DEAR! ALL RIGHT, GET A GOOD REST TONIGHT AND I'LL CALL YOU TOMORROW!
PHILIP WAS SO TRUSTING... SO EASY TO FOOL! BUT I JUST COULDN'T SEE HIM AGAIN, NOT AFTER THE DREAMS I HAD HAD! WHEN I GOT HOME THAT EVENING...
THESE ARE FOR YOU, RITA... FROM PHILIP! AND HERE'S A CARD THAT SAYS, "LET THESE TAKE MY PLACE UNTIL TOMORROW... WITH LOVE!" HOW SWEET OF HIM, AND SO THOUGHTFUL!
YES, MOTHER, ISN'T HE? BUT I WISH HE WERE MORE...
MORE EXCITING? WELL, HE'S NOT... BUT HE'S SOMETHING FAR MORE RARE THAN THAT! IT'S A LOT HARDER TO BE STEADY AND RELIABLE... AND LOVING... THAN TO BE THE GAY AND RECKLESS BLADE THAT YOUNG GIRLS LIKE YOU DREAM ABOUT!
WHY, MOTHER! HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT I DREAM ABOUT?
BECAUSE I WAS ONCE A YOUNG GIRL MYSELF, DEAR... FOOLISH AND DREAMY! OH, THERE'S THE PHONE!
I'LL TAKE IT, MOTHER!
HELLO, DREAM GIRL! I SAW YOU AT YOUR WINDOW LAST NIGHT, SO I TRACKED DOWN YOUR NUMBER THROUGH INFORMATION...
I HAD NEVER DONE A THING LIKE THIS BEFORE... SPOKEN TO A STRANGER ON THE PHONE! I MANAGED TO CONTROL MY SHAKING VOICE...
I SAW YOU IN THE PARK, TOO! DO I KNOW YOU?
NO... BUT YOU WILL! CAN I PICK YOU UP ...IN ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES?
IT WAS A DREAM COME TRUE! OF COURSE I'D MEET HIM... AND I DID! IT WAS AS IF IT WERE MEANT TO BE, FROM THE BEGINNING OF TIME, WHEN WE CAME FACE TO FACE!
HELLO...
HELLO, DREAM GIRL!

THAT WAS MY FIRST DATE WITH ROGER FLEMING, BUT IT WASN'T MY LAST! HE WAS EVERYTHING I'D IMAGINED... DASHING, WITTY AND EXCITING!

HE WAS UNLIKE PHILIP IN SO MANY WAYS! I DIDN'T HAVE TO ASK ROGER TO KISS ME! HE MADE IT HIS BUSINESS TO DO SO... OFTEN!

HIS KISSES WERE BURNING, SETTING ME ON FIRE... NOT THE CALM, TENDER KISSES I HAD KNOWN FROM PHILIP...

HE WAS DIFFERENT! NEVER IN MY LIFE HAD I KNOWN ANYONE LIKE HIM! HE WAS TRULY THE SORT OF LOVER A GIRL MEETS ONLY ONCE IN A LIFETIME!

SOMEDAY, DARLING... WE'LL GO TO EUROPE... THE SOUTH SEAS... ALL THE EXCITING PLACES... *SOMEDAY!*

AND PHILIP? WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM... NOT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED AFTER I STALLED HIM A WEEK. HE STOPPED BY MY HOUSE. AND...

YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME ABOUT THE OTHER FELLOW, RITA! I WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD!

WOULD YOU, PHILIP? WHAT ROGER AND I FEEL FOR EACH OTHER IS SOMETHING I DON'T THINK YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT!

MAYBE, RITA / ALL I *DO* KNOW IS THAT I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY! GOOD LUCK... AND IF YOU NEED ME ANY TIME...

PHILIP! *WAIT!*

I... I'M SORRY, PHILIP... BUT I JUST CAN'T HELP MYSELF! WILL YOU KISS ME GOOD-BYE!

IT WASN'T THE BURNING FIRE OF ROGER'S KISS... IT WASN'T THE "ONCE IN A LIFETIME" THRILL... BUT IT WAS SOFT, CARESSING LIKE THE TOUCH OF A GENTLE BREEZE...

THEN... HE WAS GONE, AND I WAS ALONE! I SHOULD HAVE BEEN GLAD THIS WAS OVER, BUT I WASN'T!

BUT THE MEMORY OF PHILIP WAS GONE THE MOMENT I SAW ROGER AGAIN!
WELL, BABY, I'VE GOT A BIG SURPRISE FOR YOU TONIGHT!
OH, DARLING! WHAT IS IT?
YOU'LL SEE, SWEETIE! IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN SAVING UP FOR YOU! THERE ARE SOME FOLKS I WANT YOU TO MEET!
HE'S TAKING ME TO MEET HIS FOLKS! THEN HE'S GOING TO ASK ME TO MARRY HIM!
LOVE ME, BABY DOLL?
YOU KNOW I DO! BUT WHERE ARE WE GOING, ROGER? YOU DON'T LIVE HERE... DO YOU?
PRACTICALLY, DREAM GIRL! C'MON! I WANT YOU TO MEET THE GANG!
THE... THE GANG? IN A POOL ROOM?
POOL
PARLO
SURE! THEY'RE MY BUDDIES! I WANNA SHOW THEM WHAT A SWELL DISH I GOT! HEY, FELLAS! MEET RITA!
HI, RITA!
GREETINGS, BABE!
NICE GOIN', ROG!
BUT... ROGER... WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE? WHY DID YOU BRING ME TO A PLACE LIKE THIS?
I TOLD YOU, HONEY... TO MEET THE GANG! NOW SIT DOWN WHILE I KNOCK OFF A GAME OR TWO! GOT TO MAKE DOUGH TO TAKE YOU OUT, YOU KNOW!
CIGARETTES
WAIT A MINUTE, ROGER! IS THIS HOW YOU EARN YOUR LIVING... SHOOTING POOL?
SURE! I'M AN EXPERT! ASK ANYBODY! NOW... EXCUSE ME, CUTIE!
I CERTAINLY WILL EXCUSE YOU! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT! BUT I SEE YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SLICK HOODLUM... JUST LIKE THESE... THESE...
HEY, WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE! THESE GUYS ARE MY FRIENDS!

I WAS BLIND WITH ANGER...BUT NOT AT ROGER OR HIS FRIENDS! I WAS ANGRY WITH MYSELF FOR HAVING BEEN SUCH A FOOL! I RUSHED HOME ...CONFUSED AND WEEPING!
RITA! WHAT ON EARTH'S THE MATTER?
OH...MOTHER! I'VE BEEN SUCH A STUPID FOOL!
YOU MEAN ABOUT THAT FLASHY, CHEAP BOY YOU WERE GOING OUT WITH? WELL, WE'RE ALL ENTITLED TO ONE MISTAKE!
I THOUGHT HE WAS... DIFFERENT!... BUT HE ISN'T! HE'S CHEAP AND COMMON! I FOUND THAT OUT TONIGHT! THERE'S NOTHING SINCERE AND HONEST ABOUT HIM, LIKE...
...LIKE PHILIP? BUT, DEAR, I THOUGHT YOU CONSIDERED HIM DULL!
I WAS THE DULL ONE! IT'S EASY TO BE FLASHY AND GAY, IF YOU HAVE NO SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY! BUT IT'S A LOT HARDER TO BE SINCERE AND EARNEST! IT TAKES REAL MANLINESS! OH, MOTHER, SOMEONE LIKE PHILIP IS REALLY SOMETHING THAT COMES ALONG ONLY ONCE IN A LIFETIME!
I'M SURE IT'LL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT! NOW ...HOW ABOUT SOME TEA? IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER!
ALL RIGHT ...I'LL MAKE IT!
YOU SIT RIGHT THERE! THE TEA IS ALREADY MADE!
BUT... WHO MADE IT? YOU'VE BEEN SITTING HERE!
I MADE THE TEA, RITA!
YOU... YOU WERE IN THERE... ALL THE WHILE?
THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S BEEN HERE EVERY NIGHT WHILE YOU RAN AROUND WITH THAT...OTHER MAN! WE BOTH HOPED YOU'D COME TO YOUR SENSES!
PHILIP... YOU'RE MY "ONCE IN A LIFETIME"!
HERE, LET ME HAVE THAT BEFORE YOU SQUASH IT!
RITA... DARLING!
WELL, I ALWAYS SAY THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD CUP OF TEA TO FIX THINGS UP!
The End

FOR THE BEST IN ROMANCE LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER!

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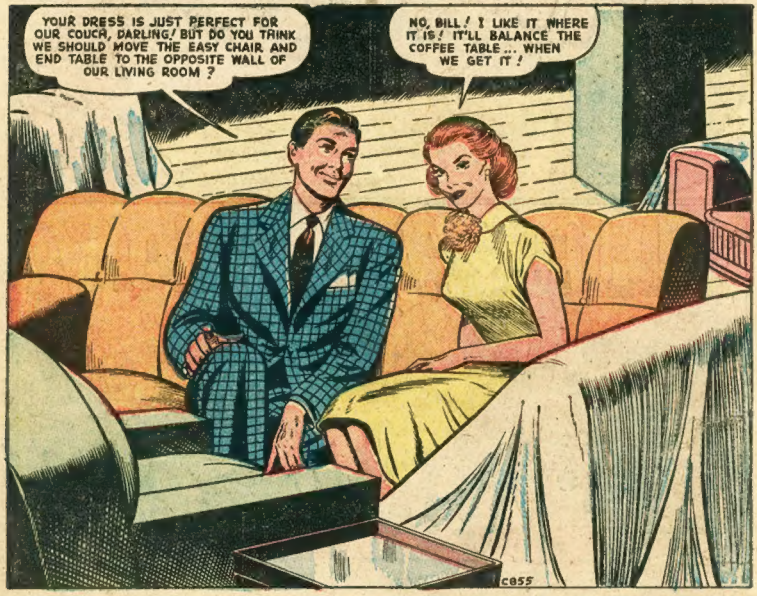
HEAVEN for HARRIET!


YOUR DRESS IS JUST PERFECT FOR OUR COUCH, DARLING! BUT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD MOVE THE EASY CHAIR AND END TABLE TO THE OPPOSITE WALL OF OUR LIVING ROOM ?
NO, BILL ! I LIKE IT WHERE IT IS ! IT'LL BALANCE THE COFFEE TABLE ... WHEN WE GET IT !
C055

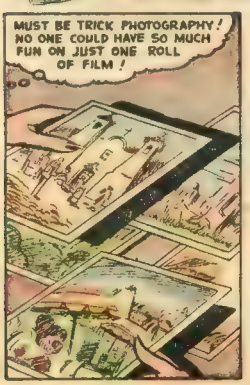
HARRIET, I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK I'M A SENTIMENTAL IDIOT BRINGING YOU TO THIS WAREHOUSE ONCE A MONTH OR WHENEVER WE ADD A NEW PIECE, BUT IT DOES GIVE ME SOME SMALL IDEA OF HOW WONDERFUL IT'LL BE SETTING UP A HOME WITH YOU !
I ENJOY EVERY VISIT ! AND BY THE TIME WE STOP PRETENDING THIS STORAGE BARN IS OUR DREAM HOME, THE FURNITURE WILL ALL BE PAID FOR AND I'LL BE READY TO HAVE YOU CARRY ME ACROSS THE THRESHOLD !

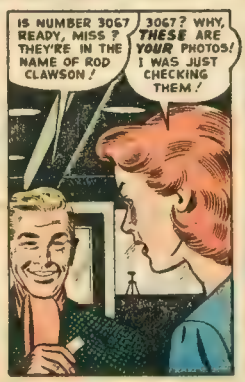
THANKS A LOT ! GUESS I'LL BE SEEING YOU TWO KIDS IN A MONTH !
RIGHT ! AND FOR MONTHS AFTER THAT... UNTIL I CAN AFFORD TO MARRY THIS LOVELY LADY ... ASSUMING SHE'LL WAIT THAT LONG !
WARE USE

STOP TALKING NONSENSE, DARLING! OF COURSE I'LL WAIT! YOU'RE A VERY WONDERFUL PERSON TO WAIT FOR!
AND YOU'RE VERY SWEET TO SAY THAT, KNOWING IT'LL BE ALMOST TWO MORE YEARS BEFORE I GET MY BIG PROMOTION! THEN I'LL HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR MORE THAN JUST THE MARRIAGE LICENSE!

I KNEW IT WOULD BE A LONG WAIT, AND I ACCEPTED IT, FOR I DEEPLY LOVED BILL! MY PARENTS WERE DEAD, AND I WAS ON MY OWN, BUT EACH DAY, I KNEW, BROUGHT ME THAT MUCH CLOSER TO THE MOMENT WHEN THE INSTALLMENT-BOUGHT FURNITURE AND THE SAVED-FOR HOUSE WOULD BE OURS...

AS I CHECKED OVER SOME ENLARGEMENTS, MY EYES GAZED LONGINGLY AT THE COLORFUL PHOTOS...

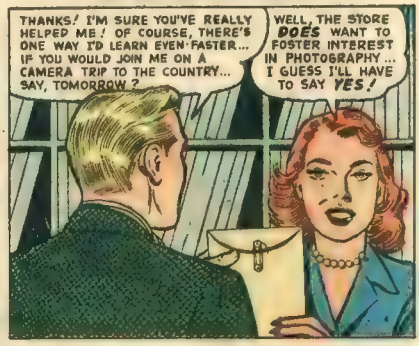




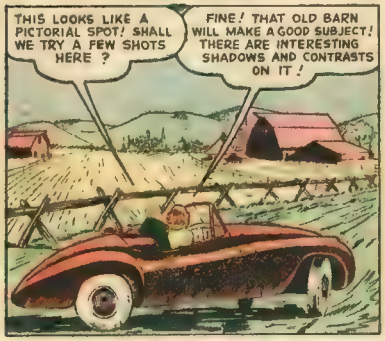
DID THEY COME OUT ALL RIGHT? IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE TAKEN A CAMERA ON MY VACATION!
WITH SUBJECTS LIKE THESE, ONLY A PROFESSIONAL WOULD WORRY ABOUT CORRECT EXPOSURE OR INTERESTING COMPOSITION! THEY'RE WONDERFUL!
2

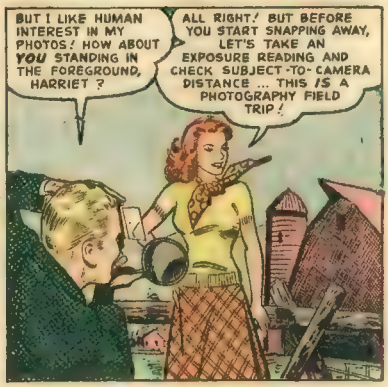
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SORT OF A PERFECTIONIST! IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT COULD BE DONE TO IMPROVE MY WORK, I'D APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS!
WELL, WE'D BETTER EXAMINE THE PHOTOS, ONE BY ONE!
FRAGILE

AS I LOOKED LONGINGLY AT PHOTOS OF SWANK SWIMMING POOLS, YACHTS, AND BEACHES, I REMAINED PROFESSIONAL AND ANALYZED EACH PICTURE...

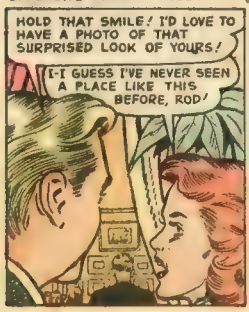

THANKS! I'M SURE YOU'VE REALLY HELPED ME! OF COURSE, THERE'S ONE WAY I'D LEARN EVEN FASTER... IF YOU WOULD JOIN ME ON A CAMERA TRIP TO THE COUNTRY... SAY, TOMORROW?
WELL, THE STORE DOES WANT TO FOSTER INTEREST IN PHOTOGRAPHY... I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO SAY YES!

THE NEXT MORNING, ROD CALLED FOR ME AND SOON WE WERE RACING INTO THE COLORFUL HILLS IN HIS FOREIGN SPORTSCAR...


THIS LOOKS LIKE A PICTORIAL SPOT! SHALL WE TRY A FEW SHOTS HERE?
FINE! THAT OLD BARN WILL MAKE A GOOD SUBJECT! THERE ARE INTERESTING SHADOWS AND CONTRASTS ON IT!


BUT I LIKE HUMAN INTEREST IN MY PHOTOS! HOW ABOUT YOU STANDING IN THE FOREGROUND, HARRIET?
ALL RIGHT! BUT BEFORE YOU START SNAPPING AWAY, LET'S TAKE AN EXPOSURE READING AND CHECK SUBJECT-TO-CAMERA DISTANCE... THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP!

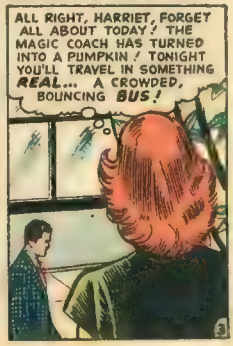
WE TOOK MANY SHOTS AND ROD WAS A LAUGHING, CAREFREE COMPANION! AT LUNCH TIME, WE PULLED UP AT AN EXPENSIVE COUNTRY CLUB...



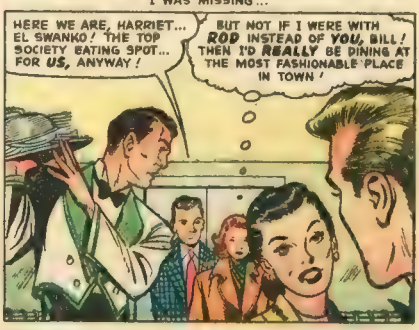
BUT SOON AFTER, I LEFT DREAMLAND, AND WE PARKED IN FRONT OF MY APARTMENT HOUSE...

I'VE HAD A VERY INSTRUCTIVE AND ENJOYABLE DAY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO DEVELOP EVEN MORE THAN THE FILM...YOUR FRIENDSHIP, HARRIET! HOW ABOUT DINNER TONIGHT?
T-TONIGHT? I'M AFRAID I CAN'T MAKE IT, ROD! I HAVE A DATE!

AND THAT NIGHT, AS I SAW BILL COME TO CALL ON ME...

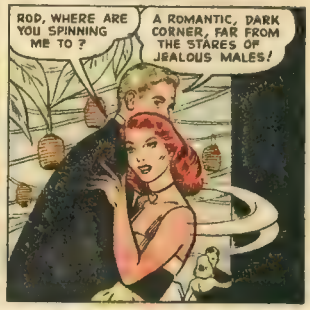

ALL RIGHT, HARRIET, FORGET ALL ABOUT TODAY! THE MAGIC COACH HAS TURNED INTO A PUMPKIN! TONIGHT YOU'LL TRAVEL IN SOMETHING REAL... A CROWDED, BOUNCING BUS!

BUT SOMETHING **WAS** DISTURBING ME... THE SUDDEN, PAINFUL REALIZATION THAT SO MUCH OF LIFE WAS PASSING ME BY AND I WASN'T SURE IF LOVE WAS ENOUGH TO COMPENSATE FOR ALL I WAS MISSING...


HERE WE ARE, HARRIET... EL SWANKO! THE TOP SOCIETY EATING SPOT... FOR **US**, ANYWAY!
BUT NOT IF I WERE WITH **ROD** INSTEAD OF **YOU**, BILL! THEN I'D **REALLY** BE DINING AT THE MOST FASHIONABLE PLACE IN TOWN!

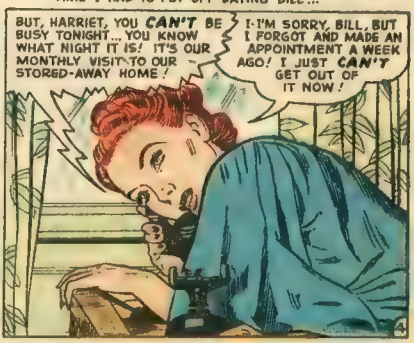
BUT ROD WAS INTERESTED IN ME! HE CALLED AGAIN AND WE DATED THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY...

THAT NIGHT WE DANCED UNDER A SKY OF JAPANESE LANTERNS, AS ROD WHIRLED ME ACROSS THE DANCE FLOOR THAT SEEMED A MAGIC CARPET HOVERING OVER WONDERLAND...



AND SUDDENLY I KNEW ROD WAS GOING TO KISS ME! BUT I DIDN'T STRUGGLE... I DIDN'T RESIST! I **WANTED** HIS LIPS ON MINE!

I BEGAN TO SEE ROD MORE OFTEN, FEELING GUILTY EACH TIME I HAD TO PUT OFF DATING BILL...


BUT, HARRIET, YOU **CAN'T** BE BUSY TONIGHT... YOU KNOW WHAT NIGHT IT IS! IT'S OUR MONTHLY VISIT TO OUR STORED-AWAY HOME!
I-I'M SORRY, BILL, BUT I FORGOT AND MADE AN APPOINTMENT A WEEK AGO! I JUST **CAN'T** GET OUT OF IT NOW!

BUT AS I HUNG UP, I FELT STRANGELY SAD...

I-I STILL ***THINK*** I LOVE BILL, BUT ROD OFFERS SO MUCH MORE ***NOW!*** BILL AND I ***ARE*** UNOFFICIALLY ENGAGED, BUT HE'S NEVER GIVEN ME A RING... OH, ***WHY*** DO I FEEL SO CONFUSED?

BUT WHEN ROD CALLED FOR ME AND WE SPED OFF, ALL SEEMED PEACEFUL AND GAY AGAIN...

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO YOUR SMILE? IT'S LUCKY I CAUGHT IT ON FILM! IT SEEMS ALL GONE!

SORRY! GUESS I WAS DOING A BIT OF THINKING! IT'S ALL OVER NOW!

AS WE SAT IN THE THEATRE THAT NIGHT, I WAS MORE INTERESTED IN THE DRAMA OF MY OWN LIFE THAN IN THE ONE ON STAGE! AND IN ROD'S WARM TOUCH, I SENSED ALL THE SECURITY AND AFFECTION I WOULD EVER NEED IN LIFE...

HARRIET, I'D LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO DINNER SOMEPLACE NEW TOMORROW NIGHT! THE FOOD IS QUITE GOOD AND I HOPE THE COMPANY WILL PROVE AGREEABLE... MY MOTHER WOULD LIKE YOU TO COME TO DINNER AT ***OUR HOME!***

OH, ROD, THAT SOUNDS DELIGHTFUL!

THE NEXT DAY, AS I STARTED WORK IN THE SHOP...

BILL! BUT WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE ALWAYS AT WORK HALF AN HOUR BEFORE I AM!

JUST STOPPING BY TO SEE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE, DEAR! IT'S BEEN OVER A WEEK SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU! HOW ABOUT DINNER TONIGHT?

OH, BILL, I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT I'VE BEEN INVITED TO DINNER TONIGHT AT SOMEONE'S HOME AND I CAN'T...

IT'S ALL RIGHT, HARRIET! I-I UNDERSTAND!

AS BILL TURNED TO LEAVE, I TRIED TO STOP HIM IN VAIN! HE WAS DEEPLY HURT, AND I FELT A PANG OF ANGUISH STABBING AT MY HEART!

BUT THAT NIGHT, ROD MADE ME FORGET EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED EARLIER...

WELL, NOW YOU'LL MEET MY MOTHER! SO FAR, SHE'S HAD TO SETTLE FOR MY PHOTOS OF YOU!

IF MY WOMAN'S INSTINCTS ARE RIGHT, I'M MEETING HIS MOTHER BECAUSE TONIGHT HE PLANS TO ***PROPOSE!***

MY HEART BEAT LIKE A TRIPHAMMER AS I ENTERED THE PALATIAL HOME, HOPING TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON MRS. CLAWSON! BUT MY FEARS WERE PUT AT EASE AT ONCE BY HER KINDLY NATURE...

DINNER WAS A PLEASURE, NOT AN ORDEAL...

AND NOW, HARRIET, WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE HOUSE? THERE ARE SOME INTERESTING ROOMS AND FURNISHINGS!

I'D LOVE TO SEE IT ALL!

AS WE WALKED THROUGH THE PRINCELY ROOMS, I COULDN'T HELP COMPARING THE MEAGER FURNITURE BILL AND I HAD SO CAREFULLY SAVED FOR AGAINST THE REGAL ANTIQUES THAT WERE PART OF ROD'S EVERYDAY LIFE...

THIS IS MY BEDROOM... MY HUSBAND'S IS DOWN THE HALL! I'VE BEEN COLLECTING BRIC-A-BRAC ALL MY LIFE! YOU MIGHT LIKE THE CURIO CABINET!

OH, MRS. CLAWSON, THOSE HIGH BUTTON SHOES ARE ADORABLE! WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?

THEY WERE MINE... PART OF MY MARRIAGE TROUSSEAU!

THEY LOOK SO FINELY MADE AND THEY'RE PERFECTLY PRESERVED!

YES, HARRIET, THEY WERE THE MOST EXPENSIVE THINGS I OWNED WHEN I MARRIED! I WAS A WORKING GIRL THEN AND IT TOOK A LOT OF SAVING FOR ME TO PURCHASE THESE SHOES, BUT I WAS VERY PROUD OF THEM! THEY WERE MY *OWN*!

BUT FROM THE DAY I WAS MARRIED, I NEVER FELT THAT PRIDE AGAIN! THERE WAS NOTHING I WANTED THAT I COULDN'T HAVE! MR. CLAWSON WAS VERY RICH! HE WAS MADLY IN LOVE WITH ME, AND THE WORLD *SEEMED* TO BE ALL MINE!

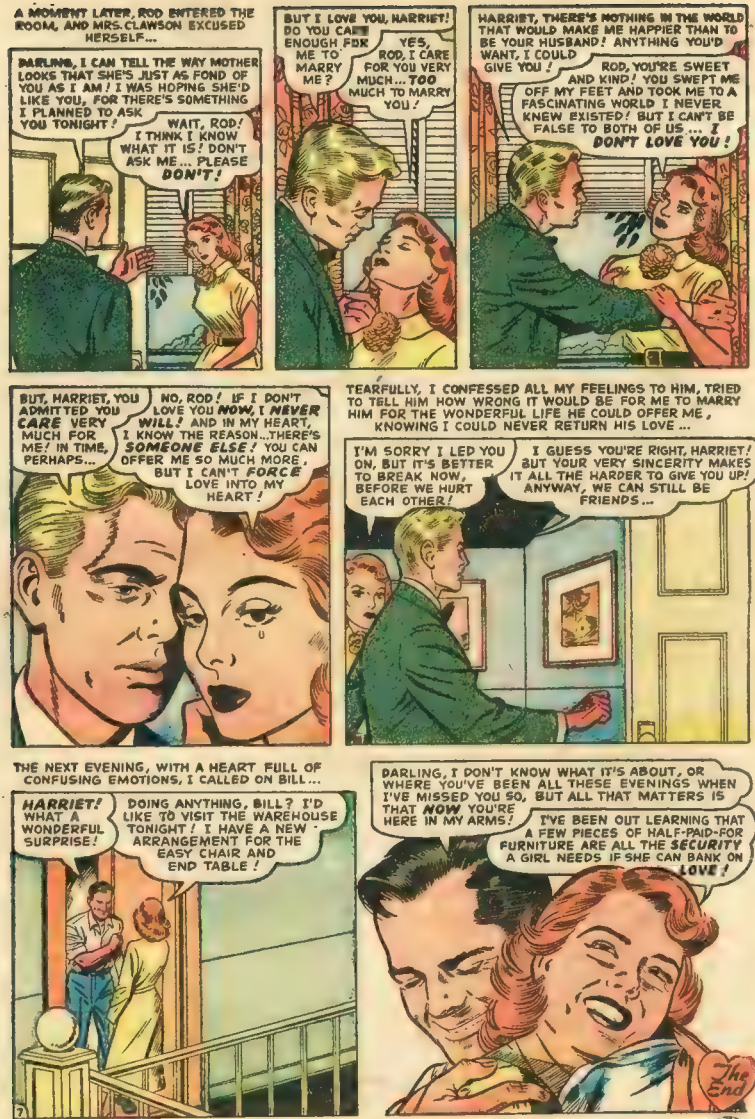
BUT YOU LOOK SO HAPPY NOW!

YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO *APPEAR* HAPPY, HARRIET! I MARRIED MR. CLAWSON, KNOWING HE LOVED ME DEEPLY AND PRAYING HIS LOVE WOULD BE ENOUGH FOR US BOTH! BUT I WAS ONLY *FOND* OF HIM AND I REALLY WANTED THE *SECURITY* HE OFFERED! I SOON LEARNED MARRIAGE *WITHOUT* LOVE ON *BOTH* SIDES CAN BE PAINFUL IN SPITE OF THE GLITTER OF ITS SURROUNDINGS!

BUT IT'S LASTED! YOU'RE STILL MARRIED!

THAT WAS ONLY FOR ROD'S SAKE! MY HUSBAND AND I LIVE SEPARATE LIVES, HARRIET! I LIVE IN A SPLENDID WORLD, BUT IT'S A *COLD* ONE... A *LOVELESS* ONE! IF I HAD IT TO DO OVER, I'D TAKE *LOVE* BEFORE SECURITY! BUT I'M CERTAIN *YOU* WOULDN'T MAKE A SIMILAR MISTAKE!

THANKS, MRS. CLAWSON... THANKS FOR A VERY INSTRUCTIVE TOUR!


A MOMENT LATER, ROD ENTERED THE ROOM, AND MRS. CLAWSON EXCUSED HERSELF...
DARLING, I CAN TELL THE WAY MOTHER LOOKS THAT SHE'S JUST AS FOND OF YOU AS I AM! I WAS HOPING SHE'D LIKE YOU, FOR THERE'S SOMETHING I PLANNED TO ASK YOU TONIGHT!
WAIT, ROD! I THINK I KNOW WHAT IT IS! DON'T ASK ME... PLEASE DON'T!
BUT I LOVE YOU, HARRIET! DO YOU CARE ENOUGH FOR ME TO MARRY ME?
YES, ROD, I CARE FOR YOU VERY MUCH... TOO MUCH TO MARRY YOU!
HARRIET, THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WORLD THAT WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN TO BE YOUR HUSBAND! ANYTHING YOU'D WANT, I COULD GIVE YOU!
ROD, YOU'RE SWEET AND KIND! YOU SWEPT ME OFF MY FEET AND TOOK ME TO A FASCINATING WORLD I NEVER KNEW EXISTED! BUT I CAN'T BE FALSE TO BOTH OF US... I DON'T LOVE YOU!
BUT, HARRIET, YOU ADMITTED YOU CARE VERY MUCH FOR ME! IN TIME, PERHAPS...
NO, ROD! IF I DON'T LOVE YOU NOW, I NEVER WILL! AND IN MY HEART, I KNOW THE REASON...THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE! YOU CAN OFFER ME SO MUCH MORE, BUT I CAN'T FORCE LOVE INTO MY HEART!
TEARFULLY, I CONFESSED ALL MY FEELINGS TO HIM, TRIED TO TELL HIM HOW WRONG IT WOULD BE FOR ME TO MARRY HIM FOR THE WONDERFUL LIFE HE COULD OFFER ME, KNOWING I COULD NEVER RETURN HIS LOVE...
I'M SORRY I LED YOU ON, BUT IT'S BETTER TO BREAK NOW, BEFORE WE HURT EACH OTHER!
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, HARRIET! BUT YOUR VERY SINCERITY MAKES IT ALL THE HARDER TO GIVE YOU UP! ANYWAY, WE CAN STILL BE FRIENDS...
THE NEXT EVENING, WITH A HEART FULL OF CONFUSING EMOTIONS, I CALLED ON BILL...
HARRIET! WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE!
DOING ANYTHING, BILL? I'D LIKE TO VISIT THE WAREHOUSE TONIGHT! I HAVE A NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR THE EASY CHAIR AND END TABLE!
DARLING, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ABOUT, OR WHERE YOU'VE BEEN ALL THESE EVENINGS WHEN I'VE MISSED YOU SO, BUT ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT NOW YOU'RE HERE IN MY ARMS!
I'VE BEEN OUT LEARNING THAT A FEW PIECES OF HALF-PAID-FOR FURNITURE ARE ALL THE SECURITY A GIRL NEEDS IF SHE CAN BANK ON LOVE!
The End
7
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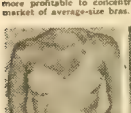
SMALL BUST PROBLEMS CORRECTED NO PADS!

How Bra Designers Perfected New "Natural Action" Molding

Revolutionary New Design Shapes Small Bust into Attractive, Fuller, More Rounded Bustline Instantly

Good news for every small-bust woman! After years of research, an amazing, entirely NEW bra design has been perfected. Almost like magic, by an entirely new principle, it molds the flat, small or sagging bust into fuller, more alluring lines — *naturally*, without embarrassing, artificial build-up of any kind.

Two prominent New York bra designers were shocked at the almost total lack of bras properly designed to naturally improve small bustline problems. They decided to do something to remedy the situation. They learned that manufacturers were frankly neglecting small-bust women because it was more profitable to concentrate on the much larger market of average-size bras.



Many ordinary bras do little to mold small, flat or sagging bosom into attractive, well-rounded bustline.

Many artificial cups and padded bras lose their shape, look and feel unnatural, uncomfortable.

ORDINARY BRAS DO LITTLE FOR SMALL BUST

Tests made on actual women with small-bust problems revealed most ordinary bras seemed to be turned out on an assembly line for all small busts, regardless of individual needs. Many lacked the uplift qualities and molding action for, shaping the flat, small or sagging bosom into natural curves. Instead, small-bust women had to be content with unromantic padded bras or with artificial inserts which frequently caused embarrassment by shifting around and lost their shape when washed. They had an artificial look even in clothes. In "close-up" situations such as dancing, they still left you self-conscious wondering whether others knew, too, that the beauty was not your own. Artificial build-ups also helped cause excessive perspiration.

The experts first considered taking one of the better bras on the market and improving its design. But they quickly decided an *entirely new type of bust molding* was needed. They consulted medical specialists and physical culturists. They studied photographs and X-rays of every usual small-bust problem — to find the basic causes and possible correction by means of a new scientific bra.

CAUSES OF SMALL BUST REVEALED

Frequently they found the small bust was part of a picture of general underweight due to poor diet, or to various glandular disturbances. Years of inadequate exercise and poor posture were other causes in some cases. Sagging small busts were caused by tired or lazy muscle tissues of the chest and breast. This permits the small bust to sag and lose every last bit of its charm.

TRYING TO GAIN WEIGHT OF LITTLE HELP

All too often in the past, women whose bustline was not improved by standard type bras went on diets to gain weight. In many cases they learned that the bust gained proportionately far less than the rest of the body.

BEFORE she wore the "Tru Form" "Natural Action" Bra, she was flat, unshapely and shy.

AFTER she wore the "Tru Form" "Natural Action" Bra, her attractive bustline gave her poise, confidence.

"Tru Form" Bra Styles to Fit and Flatter Your Individual Figure — All with "Natural Action" Inner Design. Sizes 28 to 38. Worth up to $5 or More. Now at Get-Acquainted Low Prices! In Nude, White, Blue, Black.

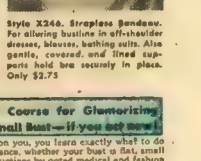
Prove to Yourself Today How the Amazing New Inner "Natural Action" Design Pictured Above Molds a Fuller, Rounder Bustline, Naturally, Without Padding or Artificial Cups.

To the experts' trained eyes, their research pointed inevitably to an entirely new principle in bustline molding — an inner-cup design so amazingly simple that you can prove its wonderful effectiveness to yourself in front of your own mirror . . . right now! Firmly cup either breast in your hands. Then, by flexing your fingers, lift, gather together and mold your bosom into the fuller, well-rounded shape you desire.

Notice how much better you look and feel instantly. This is a demonstration of the glorious "natural action" molding principle built *inside* the cups of this new-type bra — only this design does it better, easier, smoother and more naturally. It corrects those flat or sagging muscle tissues of the breast with a gentle, flexible molding action.

Style X223. Regular Bandeau. Does wonders for small bust in all clothes. Firm elastic back closing. Easy to adjust shoulder straps. Only $2.49

Style X257. Plunging Neckline. Gives you attractive curves for low cut dresses, blouses, gowns. Adjustable shoulder straps. Only $2.49



Style X248. Parisienne Bra. This black lacy bra adds a smart 'n' saucy, frankly "come hither" appeal. Adjustable straps. Black only. Now only $2.75

Style X246. Strapless Bandeau. Has allaring bustline in off-shoulder dresses, blouses, bathing suits. Also gentle, covered, and lined supports hold bra securely in place. Only $2.75

Fit and Beauty Included

Before releasing the new "Tru Form" Bra to the public, the experts tested its amazing "natural action" design on women to be sure it was flexible and adjustable enough for every small-bust problem imaginable. It was found to mold the small, flat or sagging bosom into more glamorous, fuller lines in a way that was little short of a miracles . . . without embarrassing, unromantic pads or artificial build-up of any kind . . . ENTIRELY WITH YOUR OWN NATURAL BOSOM!

A small flat bustline spoils the appearance of a woman with an otherwise good figure. While a thin woman with a fuller bustline will appear more shapely overall. "Tru Form" Bras made small-bust women look more alluring, more exquisitely feminine, enabled them to wear exciting, figure-hugging sweaters, dresses, blouses, playsuits, etc., with complete "sweater-girl" charm and confidence. Its glorious "natural action" molding was unequalled by other small bust bras and many costly custom-made bras selling for $10-$25. The "Tru Form" Bra is made of gorgeous fabric which washes and dries like a dream! Easy to adjust shoulder straps and comfy elastic back closing.

FREE! Home Course for Glamorizing the Small Bust — if you act now!

To help your new bra look its best on you, you learn exactly what to do for your personal small-bust appearance, whether your bust is flat, small or sagging. Step-by-step tested instructions by noted medical and fashion authorities. Includes priceless guidance in: Simple Illustrated Scientific Movements; What Specific Clothing Styles You Should Wear to Accentuate Your Bustline; Structure of the Bust Illustrated and How It Works; Figure Proportion Charts; Correct Bust Sizes for Your Height and Weight. And other inspiring methods for improving your small bustline. All yours FREE whether you keep bra or not — if you mail Coupon NOW!

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A VICTORY FOR LOVE!

WITH quiet anger, my mother turned her back to me. She stared out the French windows to the terrace where Peter was waiting. The late afternoon sun came into the room with a golden translucence, falling softly across the slender figure of my mother, but I knew I must not weaken. I, too, had a claim to happiness.

"I'm sorry, mother," I said, speaking firmly. "I love Peter. Nothing you say can stop me from marrying him. Please try to understand."

My mother remained rigid, unmoving. It was even more difficult than I had expected. For a moment I wished that I were a child again playing happily in the garden. Then I thought of Peter waiting for me to come to him, and I knew that his love was worth all the pain of these moments.

I closed my eyes and suddenly the room filled with the clinking of ice in tall glasses, the shrill laughter and chattering of voices at Kathy's party that spring when I had first met Peter. He was sitting away from the others, his shoulders too broad for his tuxedo. I doubt if I would have noticed him if I, too, hadn't felt lonely. Yet when I saw him standing before the window staring at the street below, I felt a strange, racing excitement within me which I couldn't explain. I crossed the room straight to him.

"Still raining?" I asked.

It took a moment for him to direct his thoughts to my question. Then he turned his head to look at me. He smiled and again I felt that excitement.

"I've been watching the colored puddles from the neon signs," he answered, still smiling. "The blue ones match your eyes."

At that moment we seemed alone in the room. Then someone laughed behind me, and I knew I wanted all the others to disappear.

"Will you rescue me?" I whispered to him. "There's a place around the corner where we can get a very good cup of coffee."

A mild look of surprise crossed his face, but I suspected that his desire to leave was as strong as mine.

"I'm a little rusty as Sir Galahad," he whispered back to me, "but Peter Forrester is at your command." He eyed the room as cautiously as if it were a dragon's lair. "How do we escape?" he asked.

I think we were both crazy from that moment on. Somehow we slipped from the room without being noticed, and in the dimly lighted stairwell we found each other's hand. It was a soft spring night, and as we reached the street, the sprinkling confetti of raindrops made us run for the tiny restaurant I had mentioned.

Breathless, we entered to the tinkling of the bell that sounded above the door. It was a small place with checkered cloths upon the tables. Peter and I sat near the low, front windows, conscious only of the sweet intimacy we were so unexpectedly finding together that evening . . .

The world that was familar to me slowly turned into something remote and far away. That night I became alive to another world that centered in the quiet awareness of Peter's voice and eyes, Suddenly I realized how desperately lonely I had always been, a truth I had never before dared to recognize. All the years of whirlwind caprice and gaiety had been nothing more than an attempt to escape my loneliness. And I discovered something more — something that had made me sub-consciously rebel against my family's wealth and position. It was the frightening knowledge that I had been made the willing tool of my mother's elaborate plans. All my life I had denied my own desires and obeyed like an automaton. I think that I never knew what I had really wanted until I met Peter and love made me decide for myself what values I would embrace. Although it had only been said in jest, in truth Peter had rescued me.

There in that little restaurant was our beginning. After that, we saw each other often, doing what most young couples like to do in the spring. We went to the zoo, held hands in the movies, and went for long walks in the evening. Peter didn't have a car, and he was reluctant to use mine, but sometimes we spent an afternoon in the country.

The longer I knew Peter, the

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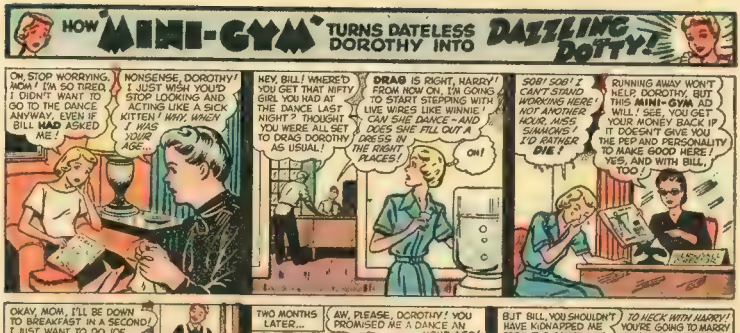
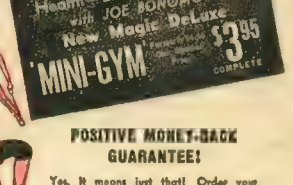

HOW "MINI-GYM" TURNS DATELESS DOROTHY INTO DAZZLING DOTTY!
OH, STOP WORRYING, MOM! I'M SO TIRED. I DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO THE DANCE ANYWAY, EVEN IF BILL HAD ASKED ME!
NONSENSE, DOROTHY! I JUST WISH YOU'D STOP LOOKING AND ACTING LIKE A SICK KITTEN! WHY, WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE...
HEY, BILL! WHERE'D YOU GET THAT NIFTY GIRL YOU HAD AT THE DANCE LAST NIGHT? THOUGHT YOU WERE ALL SET TO DRAG DOROTHY AS USUAL!
DRAG IS RIGHT, HARRY! FROM NOW ON, I'M GONNA START STEPPING WITH LIVE WIRES LIKE WINNIE! CAN SHE DANCE—AND DOES SHE FILL OUT A DRESS IN THE RIGHT PLACES!
OH!
SOB! SOB! I CAN'T STAND WORKING HERE! NOT ANOTHER HOUR, MISS SIMMONS! I'D RATHER DIE!
RUNNING AWAY WON'T HELP, DOROTHY. BUT THIS MINI-GYM AD WILL! SEE, YOU GET YOUR MONEY BACK IF IT DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE PEP AND PERSONALITY TO MAKE GOOD HERE! YES, AND WITH BILL, TOO!
OKAY, MOM, I'LL BE DOWN TO BREAKFAST IN A SECOND! I JUST WANT TO DO JOE BONOMO'S TRICKY EXERCISE TO AGAIN. IT'S SUCH FUN! REMEMBER HOW I USED TO HATE EXERCISE?
SO DID I, BUT NOT SINCE YOU GOT MINI-GYM IN SO HAPPY OVER THE 5 POUNDS I'VE LOST USING IT ONLY 10 MINUTES A DAY!
TWO MONTHS LATER...
AW, PLEASE, DOROTHY! YOU PROMISED ME A DANCE AN HOUR AGO!
SCRAM, BILL! DAZZLING DOTTY'S MY GIRL TONIGHT!
WHY, BILL! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU AND "WINNIE THE LIVE WIRE"?
BUT BILL, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE KIDNAPPED ME FROM THE DANCE LIKE THIS! WHAT WILL HARRY THINK?
TO HECK WITH HARRY! YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY ME! YOU'LL BE WEARING MY RING AS SOON AS THE STORES OPEN TOMORROW! SO SAY "YES" FAST, DOTTY!

It's Fun Gaining a Glamorous Figure . . .

NEW • EASY • EXCITING

"MINI-GYM" Way!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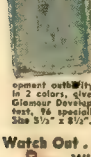

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SEND NO MONEY! MAIL 'NO RISK' COUPON NOW!

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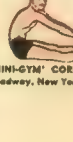

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more wonderful he became. My life had completely changed and I was happier than I had ever known it was possible to be.

Peter worked for an advertising firm, doing art layouts and magazine illustration. His income would not have met my mother's approval, but it was a fascinating world to me . . . worthwhile and full of accomplishment. For hours I would listen to Peter, and sometimes when a rush-job would keep him busy, he'd let me go to his studio and watch. Then we'd have a late supper or I'd bring up sandwiches; and we'd chatter until it was time for me to go home.

March and April drifted past in a swift symphony of hours. I lived for Peter alone. Sometimes he was a little moody, but it would pass away quickly, and I was happy and content. There was only one thing which disturbed my serenity. I knew I could not tell my mother about Peter. In her misguided devotion to worldly possessions and the wealth that would buy them, I knew she would never understand my choice of Peter.

Then one day as Peter held me in his arms, he asked me to marry him. It was what I had longed for, but the minute he said the words, I realized I had not been prepared for them. I could not accept without having to inform my family—and I had been hoping that somehow that event would never have to come.

Peter was understanding when I told him that his love was the most important thing in the world to me, but that I was certain my mother wouldn't approve of him. It meant having to persuade her slowly and carefully, and it would take time. Peter had been patient until this afternoon when he insisted I take a stand.

"Darling, we can't go on hiding from your mother forever," he said. "I insist on our going over right now and telling her we're in love and want to be married. If it has to be kept a secret between us—well, then you'll have to decide. But it's better to tell her now and surely she'll understand."

"You don't know mother," I answered, but Peter was right, I knew.

We drove to the house, and I left Peter on the terrace while I went to make explanations. Mother had to be told, and I knew the difficult task was not for Peter, but for me.

When I told her about our love, I watched her lovely face become drawn, and her lips tightened. She listened while I explained that choosing a husband was to be my decision and that my happiness was with Peter. Love was true wealth, I told her, not worldly possessions. In defiant anger she had turned her back on me . . .

Suddenly I was aware that my mother was speaking my name and that only one bitter moment had passed since I had closed my eyes.

"Julie," she said evenly, "I won't let you go."

That was her answer. I knew now that I must make my decision. Slowly I started moving toward the door.

"Julie, wait!" she called, "you don't understand," and as she turned to face me, I saw that her cheeks were wet from tears.

I stood waiting, ready to challenge any argument she could offer.

She continued in a quiet tone. "I'm a lonely old woman," she began, "and a fool. A long time ago I chose wealth instead of happiness, and all these years I've been trying to convince myself that I made the wise decision. Yes, and to make you believe it, too. But I was wrong."

Again she turned to stare out to the terrace where Peter was waiting. She spoke in almost a whisper. "A moment ago as I saw your Peter for the first time, it brought the past all back to me. His features are the same as his father's. You see, Julie, the man I really loved was Roger Forrester. Tell me, is he Roger's son?"

"Yes, mother," I answered, too surprised to say more.

As my mother slipped her arm about me, I saw that the woman who faced me now was a different one than I had known in the past. She was a woman who was rediscovering her ideals.

"I wish I had had the courage to make the right decision as you are doing," she said smiling tenderly. "I said that I wouldn't let you go—at least not until I wish you both great happiness."

A moment later as I ran to tell Peter that everything was all right, I knew that not only had I found the man I loved, but I had found my own mother, as well.

THE END

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I enclose $____ in payment. Send postage free.

Send C.O.D. for $____ plus shipping costs.

Name ____

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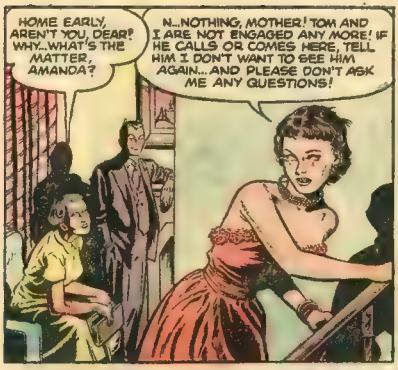
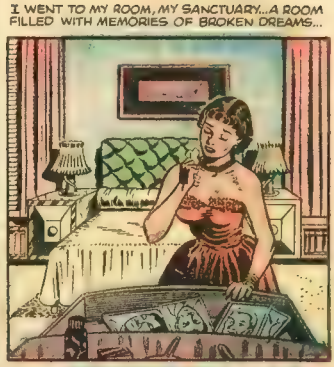
City and Zone ____ State ____

TOO EAGER... TOO OFTEN!

WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOU AND AMANDA GETTING ENGAGED?
WHY NOT? Y'KNOW I'M DUE TO BE DRAFTED, AND AMANDA'S OLD MAN MANUFACTURES GOVERNMENT PLANE PARTS IN HIS FACTORY! THROUGH HER I'LL GET IN THE FACTORY AND BE EXEMPT FROM THE DRAFT!
SO THAT'S THE RACKET!
A FELLOW HAS TO WATCH OUT FOR HIS OWN GOOD, Y' KNOW!
TOM DIDN'T WANT ME FOR MYSELF... HE DIDN'T REALLY LOVE ME! HE WAS JUST USING ME TO KEEP FROM BEING DRAFTED...
AMANDA, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? DON'T YOU LIKE THE PARTY?
AND I THOUGHT WE WERE BOTH SO IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER! OH, TOM, HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?


HOME EARLY, AREN'T YOU, DEAR? WHY...WHAT'S THE MATTER, AMANDA?
N...NOTHING, MOTHER! TOM AND I ARE NOT ENGAGED ANY MORE! IF HE CALLS OR COMES HERE, TELL HIM I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN...AND PLEASE DON'T ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS!


I WENT TO MY ROOM, MY SANCTUARY...A ROOM FILLED WITH MEMORIES OF BROKEN DREAMS...

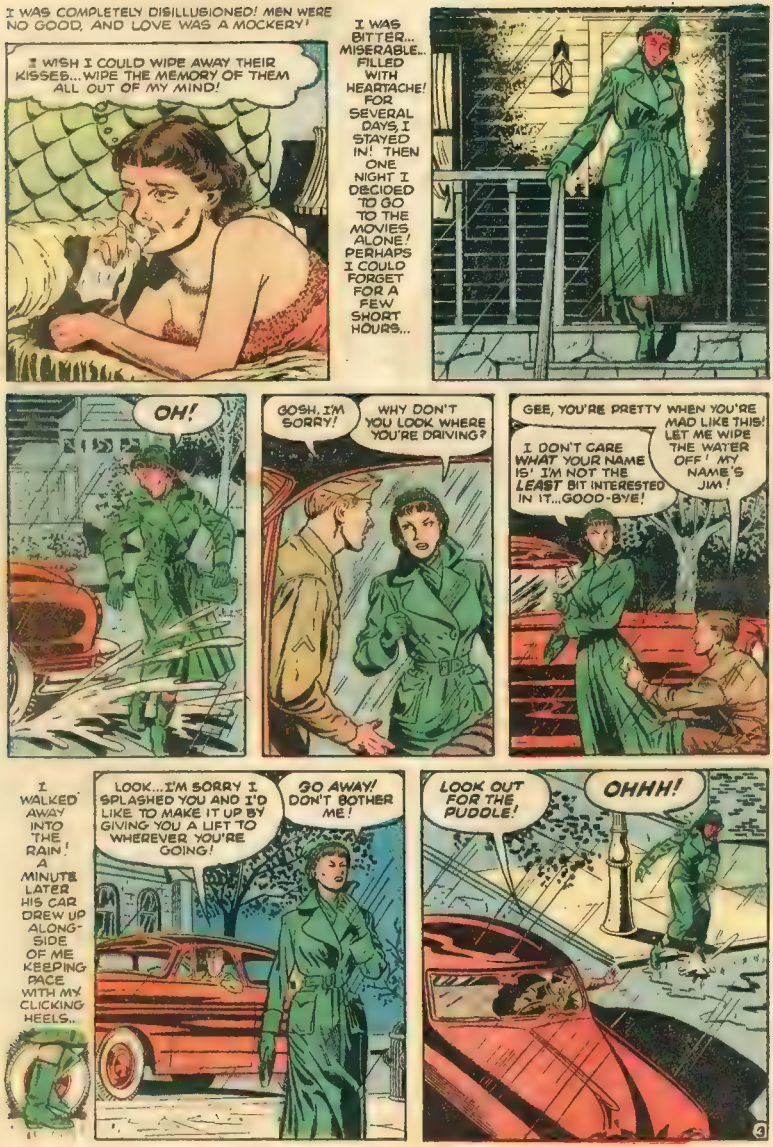
TOM HADN'T BEEN THE FIRST...
KEN!..I THOUGHT WE WERE IN LOVE, TOO! THEN I FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS THOROUGHLY BAD!

AND BARRY... BARRY WHO TOLD ME HE WAS MAD ABOUT ME,..THEN RAN OFF WITH ANOTHER GIRL!

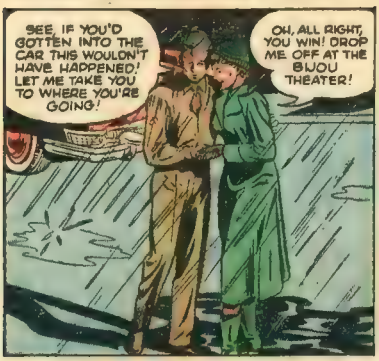
I CERTAINLY FELL HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE WITH FRANK THAT SUMMER AT THE LAKE! THEN HE WENT HOME AND I WAITED AND WAITED FOR A LETTER THAT NEVER CAME!

WHAT'S THE USE OF LOOKING AT THE REST AND REMEMBERING HOW OFTEN I'VE EAGERLY FALLEN IN LOVE... EACH ONE THE BIG ROMANCE, THE BIG LOVE OF MY LIFE!

THIS WAS THE LAST TIME! I'LL NEVER LET ANOTHER MAN MAKE A FOOL OF ME...NEVER BE TRAPPED BY LOVE AGAIN! I'VE BEEN TOO EAGER TO FALL IN LOVE, TOO OFTEN!


I WAS COMPLETELY DISILLUSIONED! MEN WERE NO GOOD, AND LOVE WAS A MOCKERY!
I WISH I COULD WIPE AWAY THEIR KISSES&B...WIPE THE MEMORY OF THEM ALL OUT OF MY MIND!
I WAS BITTER... MISERABLE... FILLED WITH HEARTACHE! FOR SEVERAL DAYS, I STAYED IN! THEN ONE NIGHT I DECIDED TO GO TO THE MOVIES ALONE! PERHAPS I COULD FORGET FOR A FEW SHORT HOURS...
OH!
GOSH, I'M SORRY!
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK WHERE YOU'RE DRIVING?
GEE, YOU'RE PRETTY WHEN YOU'RE MAD LIKE THIS! LET ME WIPE THE WATER OFF! MY NAME'S JIM!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR NAME IS! I'M NOT THE LEAST BIT INTERESTED IN IT...GOOD-BYE!
I WALKED AWAY INTO THE RAIN!
A MINUTE LATER HIS CAR DREW UP ALONGSIDE OF ME KEEPING PACE WITH MY CLICKING HEELS..
LOOK...I'M SORRY I SPLASHED YOU AND I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT UP BY GIVING YOU A LIFT TO WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING!
GO AWAY! DON'T BOTHER ME!
LOOK OUT FOR THE PUDDLE!
OHHH!
4

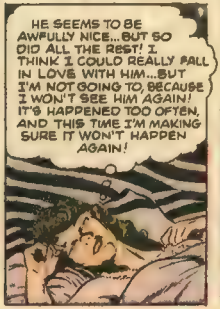
HE LOOKED SO DISMAYED I HAD TO LAUGH...


SEE, IF YOU'D GOTTEN INTO THE CAR THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED! LET ME TAKE YOU TO WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
OH, ALL RIGHT, YOU WIN! DROP ME OFF AT THE BIJOU THEATER!

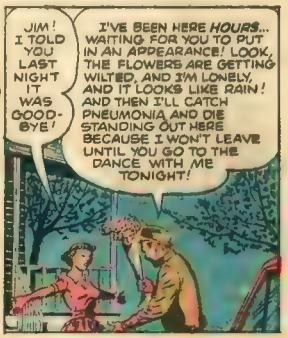
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW... I'M GOING TO THE BIJOU, TOO! YOU DON'T MIND IF I GO IN AND SIT NEXT TO YOU, DO YOU? I WON'T HOLD YOUR HAND... I WON'T EVEN SPEAK TO YOU IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO! SOMEONE WILL SIT NEXT TO YOU AND IT MIGHT JUST AS WELL BE ME!

AFTER THE SHOW HE TOOK ME HOME...

I KEPT THINKING ABOUT HIM THAT NIGHT AS I LAY IN BED LOOKING OUT AT THE MOON...


HE SEEMS TO BE AWFULLY NICE... BUT SO DID ALL THE REST! I THINK I COULD REALLY FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM... BUT I'M NOT GOING TO, BECAUSE I WON'T SEE HIM AGAIN! IT'S HAPPENED TOO OFTEN, AND THIS TIME I'M MAKING SURE IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

BUT THE NEXT EVENING WHEN I CAME OUT ON THE PORCH AFTER DINNER...


JIM! I TOLD YOU LAST NIGHT IT WAS GOOD-BYE!
I'VE BEEN HERE HOURS... WAITING FOR YOU TO PUT IN AN APPEARANCE! LOOK, THE FLOWERS ARE GETTING WILTED, AND I'M LONELY, AND IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN! AND THEN I'LL CATCH PNEUMONIA AND DIE STANDING OUT HERE BECAUSE I WON'T LEAVE UNTIL YOU GO TO THE DANCE WITH ME TONIGHT!

I PROTESTED... I ARGUED... I IGNORED HIM... BUT IN THE END, I COULDN'T RESIST HIS APPEAL...

WE DROVE HOME, AND AT THE DOOR I HELD OUT MY HAND, BUT HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS AND THEN I KNEW IT WAS THE BEGINNING ALL OVER FOR ME! I WAS FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN, AND THIS TIME MORE DEEPLY THAN EVER!

SUDDENLY I WAS AFRAID... AFRAID OF THE HURT THAT WOULD COME AGAIN... AFRAID OF THE DISILLUSIONMENT, THE ACHE, THE BROKEN DREAMS THAT I HAD KNOWN SO OFTEN...

AMANDA, I...I...

NO! GO AWAY! I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU ANY MORE! DO YOU HEAR? GO AWAY AND DON'T EVER COME BACK!

I RAN TO MY ROOM! I TOLD MYSELF I'D NEVER BE WEAK AGAIN... NEVER BE TRAPPED BY THAT OLD FEELING CALLED LOVE...

IN ANOTHER MINUTE I'D HAVE BEEN LOST! THIS IS THE BEST WAY...NOT TO WAIT UNTIL I GET SO DEEPLY INVOLVED THAT THERE'S NO WAY OUT EXCEPT BY TEARING MY HEART TO SHREDS!

BUT AS THE DAYS PASSED I MISSED HIM, AND THERE WAS AN ACHE IN MY HEART, A VOID THAT HURT WORSE THAN THE MISERY OF MEMORIES...

I LOVE HIM...TRULY LOVE HIM! THE OTHER TIMES WERE ONLY PLAYING AT LOVE, I REALIZE THAT NOW! BUT I'M AFRAID...IF HE'S LIKE THE OTHERS I JUST COULDN'T STAND IT!

MAYBE HE ISN'T LIKE THE OTHERS! I GUESS I'LL NEVER KNOW! HE WON'T BE BACK! I CHASED HIM AWAY! I'VE BEEN TOO EAGER, TOO OFTEN, AND NOW I'M PAYING FOR IT!

AMANDA!

JIM!

AMANDA, MY LEAVE IS UP, BUT I COULDN'T GO BEFORE SEEING YOU AGAIN! I HAD TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU! I KNOW YOU DON'T CARE A BIT FOR ME, BUT I DO LOVE YOU AND I'D LIKE TO WRITE TO YOU!

JIM, DO YOU HAVE A GIRL SOMEPLACE ELSE? IS THERE ANY REASON WHY YOU...YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME?

I DON'T HAVE A GIRL, BUT I WANT ONE...YOU! THE ONLY REASON I SAY I LOVE YOU IS BECAUSE I'M JUST CRAZY ABOUT YOU, AND IF YOU'LL WAIT FOR ME TO GET OUT OF SERVICE, I'LL SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE MAKING YOU HAPPY, AND...

DON'T SAY ANY MORE! JUST TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS AND KISS ME!

OUR LIPS MET...AND I WASN'T AFRAID ANY MORE! I KNEW THAT THIS WAS REAL! THAT JIM REALLY LOVED ME...AND THAT THERE'D BE NO MORE BITTER MEMORIES!

The End

FOR THE BEST IN ROMANCE LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER!

Reducing Specialist Says:

LOSE WEIGHT Where It Shows Most REDUCE MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

ELECTRIC Spot Reducer

Relaxing • Soothing Penetrating Massage

PLUG IN GRASP HANDLE AND APPLY

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY APPROVED

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Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and Turkish baths—MASSAGE!

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

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When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts. Underwriters Laboratory approved.

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Please send me the Standard Model SPOT REDUCER for 10 days trial period. I enclose $1.00, upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

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☐ I enclose $9.95. Send Standard Model.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

HERE IS MY HEART!

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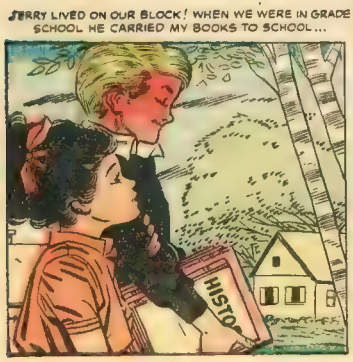

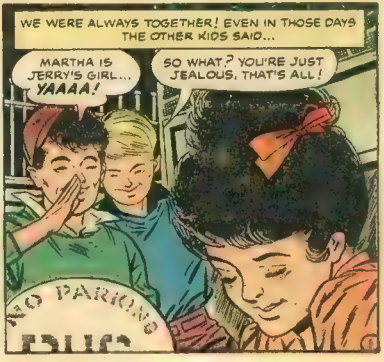
WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER! EVEN IN THOSE DAYS THE OTHER KIDS SAID...
MARTHA IS JERRY'S GIRL... YAAAA!
SO WHAT? YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS, THAT'S ALL!
NO PARKING

AS WE GREW OLDER AND WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL, IT DIDN'T CHANGE! IT WAS ALWAYS JERRY WHO TOOK ME TO THE PROMS...
...AND SWIMMING AND TENNIS IN THE SUMMER...
THEN OUR SCHOOL DAYS WERE OVER AND IT WAS STILL MARTHA AND JERRY! IT WAS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION WITH EVERY-ONE WHO KNEW US, THAT WE WOULD BE MARRIED SOME TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE...
HAVE A GOOD TIME, CHILDREN!
I ALWAYS HAVE A GOOD TIME WHEN I'M WITH MARTHA, MRS. MASON!
AND WHEN AREN'T YOU WITH MARTHA, JERRY? HA! HA!
IT WAS THAT DAY, PICNICKING ON THE SHORES OF HARVEY'S LAKE THAT JERRY ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM... PUTTING INTO WORDS WHAT WE HAD KNOWN WITHOUT SAYING FOR SO LONG...
REMEMBER WHEN THE OTHER KIDS WOULD DO THIS AND WE'D GET MAD?
NOT MAD, JERRY! I THINK IT JUST IRKED US THAT THEY KNEW OUR SECRET!
M.M. J.S.
MARTHA, AS SOON AS I GET A DECENT JOB AND SAVE SOME MONEY WE CAN BE MARRIED!
I'M GOING TO GET A JOB TOO! WITH TWO OF US WORKING, IT WILL CUT DOWN THE TIME WE HAVE TO WAIT!
OUR LIPS MET IN A PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE...
I HAD SEVERAL JOBS THAT YEAR, BUT DIDN'T CARE MUCH FOR THEM! FINALLY I GOT A JOB AS SECRETARY TO MARK STANDISH, A WRITER...
MISS MASON, I FIXED THE BUGS IN THAT FIFTH CHAPTER AND FINISHED IT!
WHAT ..?

I FORGOT YOU WERE WEARING THOSE THINGS! I'VE FINISHED THE FIFTH CHAPTER IN LONG-HAND! I WONDER IF YOU'LL STAY A BIT LATE AND TYPE IT UP FOR ME?
I HAVE A DATE, BUT... I SUPPOSE I CAN CALL JERRY AND BREAK IT...
GOOD! I'LL RUSTLE UP SOME SANDWICHES! I WANT TO READ IT ALOUD TO YOU AND GET YOUR REACTION...
IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED I BROKE MANY DATES WITH JERRY! SOMEHOW I DIDN'T MIND! MARK WAS MUCH OLDER THAN I, BUT HE WAS A HANDSOME, CHARMING MAN, AND I FELT GOOD IN HIS COMPANY...
THE BOOK'S SHAPING UP WELL! I THINK I CAN FINISH IT IN ANOTHER WEEK!
AND THEN I'LL BE OUT OF A JOB!
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT THAT! THESE WEEKS WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER HAVE MEANT A LOT TO ME! I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU, MARTHA!
MARK... I DIDN'T DREAM...
HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS, GENTLY, AND KISSED ME, AND IT WAS AS THOUGH I HAD NEVER BEEN KISSED BEFORE! MY MIND REELED IN ECSTASY, MY HEART CRIED OUT AS THOUGH RELEASED FROM SOME IMPOSSIBLE SLAVERY...
OH, MARK, I LOVE YOU, TOO! I HAVEN'T KNOWN UNTIL NOW... BUT I GUESS I DID KNOW, DEEP DOWN, BUT DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE TRUTH!
MY DARLING! WE'LL BE MARRIED NEXT MONTH! WE'LL HONEYMOON IN THE SOUTH SEAS!
I WAS MARRIED ONCE BEFORE, BUT IT WASN'T A SUCCESS AND ENDED IN DIVORCE! SINCE THEN I'VE NOT SEEN A WOMAN WHO COULD MEAN A THING TO ME UNTIL YOU CAME ALONG! I'LL DO MY BEST TO MAKE YOU HAPPY, DEAREST!
I KNOW I'LL ALWAYS BE HAPPY WITH YOU, MARK DEAR!
3

I WALKED HOME THAT NIGHT, ALONE, SO I COULD THINK! I WAS DELIRIOUSLY HAPPY, AND I KNEW THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I WAS REALLY IN LOVE...
ALL THESE YEARS WITH JERRY, I DIDN'T QUESTION, JUST TOOK IT FOR GRANTED THAT WE WERE IN LOVE... PROBABLY BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE SAID SO, TOO! NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME I KNOW WHAT LOVE REALLY IS!
BUT HOW AM I GOING TO TELL JERRY?
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU CAME HOME, MARTHA!
I'VE BEEN TALKING TO YOUR PARENTS AND WE ALL AGREE THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO QUIT YOUR JOB! THAT STANDISH FELLOW TAKES UP ALL YOUR TIME! YOU'VE BROKEN A DOZEN DATES WITH ME LATELY!
BESIDES, PEOPLE WILL BEGIN TO TALK!
LET THEM TALK! JERRY, I'M BREAKING OFF OUR ENGAGEMENT! I'M IN LOVE WITH MARK STANDISH, AND HE WITH ME!
THERE WAS A MOMENT OF STUNNED SILENCE! THEN THEY ALL BEGAN TO TALK AT ONCE!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
MARTHA, YOU CAN'T MEAN IT! YOU AND JERRY BELONG TO EACH OTHER!
STANDISH IS ALMOST TWICE YOUR AGE! I WON'T HAVE IT!
AND THEY KEPT AT ME, DAY AFTER DAY, BREAKING DOWN MY RESISTANCE! THEIR ARGUMENTS WERE GOOD ONES...
HE'S TOO OLD FOR YOU! YOU'RE JUST INFATUATED WITH THE ATTENTIONS OF AN OLDER MAN!
WE KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU! YOU'RE YOUNG AND HE'S FLATTERED YOU BY...
SURE... THE OLD GUY WANTS A SWEET YOUNG GIRL TO MARRY!
DOUBTS ROSE IN MY MIND... DOUBTS BORN OF THEIR CONSTANT NAGGING, UNTIL I DOUBTED EVERYTHING, EVEN MY LOVE FOR MARK...
MY POOR BABY! HE'S TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF YOUR YOUTH! WHY, HE'S BEEN MARRIED AND DIVORCED!
JERRY'S THE BOY FOR YOU... THE ONE YOU TRULY LOVE, THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW IT! YOU'LL THANK US IN THE YEARS TO COME...
ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! YOU WIN! MAYBE I AM TOO YOUNG AND FOOLISH AND DON'T KNOW MY OWN MIND! I'LL BREAK WITH MARK AND MARRY JERRY!
I WROTE TO MARK, TELLING HIM OF MY DECISION... I KNEW IF I FACED HIM, I COULDN'T GO THROUGH WITH IT...

THE TIME GREW CLOSER FOR MY MARRIAGE TO JERRY! I COULDN'T ERASE MARK FROM MY HEART... I WAS MISERABLE...
COME ON, MARTHA, BUCK UP! YOU'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT THAT GUY ONCE WE'RE MARRIED!
HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS KISSED ME, HARD! I CLOSED MY EYES... AND IT WAS MARK'S ARMS AROUND ME... MARK'S LIPS ON MY OWN...
IN THAT MOMENT I KNEW I COULDN'T MARRY JERRY...
NO! LEAVE GO, JERRY! PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND! I CAN'T DO IT! I CAN'T MARRY YOU, JERRY! I'M SO MISERABLE BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, BUT...
LISTEN TO ME! YOU WILL MARRY ME, SEE, OR I'LL SPREAD SOME PRETTY NASTY RUMORS ABOUT YOU AND THIS MARK GUY...
HIS FACE WAS HEAVY WITH HATE! I LISTENED TO THE WORDS THAT POURED FROM HIS LIPS, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME I SAW JERRY AS HE REALLY WAS...
YOU'RE NOT RUNNING OUT ON ME AND MAKING ME THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THIS TOWN!
SO THAT'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT! YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME! AND TO THINK I EVER THOUGHT I LOVED YOU!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING? I WARN YOU!
I'VE HAD MY WARNING JUST IN TIME! I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT YOU! THAT'S THE ONE THING THAT KEPT ME FROM MARK... BUT NOW I DON'T CARE! I'M GOING TO THE MAN I LOVE, AND NEITHER YOU NOR ANYONE CAN STOP ME!
I BURST INTO MARK'S APARTMENT! HE CAME TO ME...
MARTHA, MY DARLING, YOU'VE COME BACK TO ME!
YES, MARK, AND THIS TIME I'LL NEVER LEAVE AGAIN! THIS TIME I KNOW WHERE MY LOVE IS!
HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS, THOSE STRONG ARMS I LOVED, AND I KNEW THAT THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR AGES DIDN'T COUNT BECAUSE LOVE DOESN'T WATCH THE CALENDAR... HAPPINESS CAN ONLY COME THROUGH TRUE LOVE, AND THAT'S WHAT MARK AND I HAD!
The End

FOR THE BEST IN ROMANCE LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER!

Sensational Factory Offer!

To Readers of this Magazine

Genuine Heat Resistant Sturdiware

Now you can grace your table with 67 pieces of fine Sturdiware for almost 10c a piece! They're unbreakable, heat-resistant and come in beautiful Hollywood Pastel colors. Save by ordering from the factory today!

Complete Service for 8

Look at these Features:

- **UNBREAKABLE**—May be dropped on the floor ~~will~~ not break under normal usage! Withstand lots of punishment.
- **HOLLYWOOD PASTEL COLORS**—Each set comes in a delightful mixture of maize yellow, jade green, sky blue and dusty rose.
- **HEAT RESISTANT**—Scalding water will not mar the lustrous finish of this set.
- **GENUINE PLASTIC STURDIWARE**—One of the finest plastics known. Will stay bright and cheerful indefinitely.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

We're so positive you'll agree this is the greatest dish value ever offered that we make this guarantee: use these dishes in your home for 5 days—you must be 100% satisfied or you may return the set and your money will be cheerfully refunded at once.

ACT IMMEDIATELY!

HI-LITE INDUSTRIES, Dept. F-117
2215 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 16, Ill.

☐ Kindly rush....67-pc. Dinnerware Sets at the factory price of $6.95 per set—plus C.O.D. on 5-day money-back guarantee.
☐ I enclose $6.95 plus 25c to save C.O.D. charges.

NAME _____
(please print)
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE ____ STATE ____

HI-LITE INDUSTRIES 2215 SO. MICHIGAN AVE. CHICAGO 16, ILLINOIS

INTRODUCING
Comfo-Gard

THE AMAZING NEW MENSTRUAL SHIELD THAT GIVES SURE, SAFE PROTECTION DIFFERENTLY

Yes, here it is—look at the illustration and see at once why Comfo-Gard is different. Comfo-Gard looks like and is an abbreviated pantie—except Comfo-Gard is especially cut to hug the body contours. Comfo-Gard is made of finest fabric and elastic materials and is lined with sheerest, softest rubber to make it liquid repellent.

NO PINS — NO HOOKS

Comfo-Gard eliminates pins and hooks. "No-slip" loops hold the napkin securely without pins or hooks. You'll enjoy this extra freedom from annoyance.

ELIMINATES CHAFING

Comfo-Gard's wide crotch keeps the pad flat and smooth all the time. The elastic band hugs the hips, thus eliminating one of the most common causes of chafing.

NO TELL-TALE BUMPS

Comfo-Gard's special form-fit design completely does away with tell-tale bumps.

NO STAINS — NO OVERFLOW

The special sheer soft rubber lining makes soiling or overflowing impossible. For the first time you'll really feel safe.

LONG LIFE — WASHES IN A JIFFY

Comfo-Gard will give years of good service. Washes in a jiffy and dries almost instantly. Try Comfo-Gards today.

TRY 60 DAYS FREE

USE COMFO-GARDS AS PANTIES OTHER TIMES

Only Comfo-Gards can be worn as panties during the rest of the time. Just remove the pad and Comfo-Gards become comfortable abbreviated panties. They are wonderful under slacks, sport shorts and beach wear.

TRY COMFO-GARDS 60 DAYS FREE . . . SEND NO MONEY

Here is our offer:—fill out the coupon below and mail in. We'll rush Comfo-Gards to you in an unmarked package. Take 60 days to decide whether you wish to keep Comfo-Gards. If not a full refund of the purchase price will be made immediately.

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2 FOR $1.98

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20 Greene St.
New York, N. Y.

Please rush two (2) Comfo-Gards in a plain package. I will pay postman only $1.98 plus postage. If not satisfied after 60 days I may return the Comfo-Gards for a full refund of the purchase price.

My waist size is _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

☐ Check here if you enclose $1.98 and we pay postage. Same refund offer holds.

PROVEN AND TESTED BY THOUSANDS!—THOUSANDS PRAISE KAL-X!—PROVEN AND TESTED BY THOUSANDS!

DON'T BE FAT!

CHEW KAL-X GUM

ONLY $2 PLUS C.O.D. OR SEND $2 AND SAVE POSTAGE

WITH OUR TESTED CALORIC PLAN LOSE FAT OR MONEY BACK!

(Patent Pending)

It's New! Everybody Is Chewing KAL-X GUM!

GOOD FOR MEN AND WOMEN!

PROVEN AND TESTED BY THOUSANDS.

SOLD ON MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Posed by Professional Model

*MIRACLE! All my friends think a miracle happened to me! — W. W. Chicago, Ill.

*My Doctor says KAL-X is the best! — P. D. Gretna, La.

THOUSANDS GREET KAL-X!

*"LOST 21 POUNDS ALREADY"

V. G. Newark, N. J.

*"LOST 18 POUNDS ON THE FIRST BOX"

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ENJOY CHEWING KAL-X GUM INSTEAD OF FATTENING FOODS! THEY'RE DELICIOUS!

THOUSANDS PRAISE KAL-X!

DOCTORS AGREE: That fat people tend to die younger and become easy victims of many diseases! Your doctor's recommendation and approval is invited. If your excess fat is not due to glandular or organic causes—Don't Wait! Mail Coupon Below Today! Don't miss dating and good times because you're FAT! Try KAL-X Tested Plan. Satisfaction or Money Back! KAL-X IS SAFE!

MAIL THIS COUPON

THIS IS IT!

THE AMAZING NEW FORMULA GUM! TESTED BY THOUSANDS!

"IT REALLY DID THE JOB!"
I tried so many others and was almost ready to give up. Thanks again to KAL-X! A. G. Portland, Oregon

"LOST 60 POUNDS *Since chewing KAL-X Gum"* V. S. St. Louis, Mo.

NOW!—TRY THE KAL-X GUARANTEED TESTED PLAN! EAT AND GROW THIN! DON'T SUFFER HUMILIATION AND RIDICULE BY BEING FAT! KAL-X IS DELICIOUS! ENJOY CHEWING KAL-X BETWEEN MEALS INSTEAD OF FATTENING FOODS AND LOSE WEIGHT!

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LOSE FAT OR MONEY BACK!

KAL-X GUM CO., Dept.10-J

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I want to save 40c C.O.D. postage so I enclose $2.00 with order. ☐.

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Lace flicks across the bodice and around the neckline of our sheer cotton organdie. Pink, maize, foam green. Also in white for Graduation or Confirmation.

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